



RESILIENCE 2:1

Meeting Minutes 03/04/2023

Annual General Meeting: 7:00 pm EDT

Attendees:

Cheryl Bradbee

Elaine Bradbee

Oruba Alwan

Aleksandar Janicijevic

1) Newsletter and response:

Aleks reported that the newsletter was pretty popular as before; 30-40 visits a day in the beginning; people are spending some time there; it's important – it's making us look like we're doing something. Every post in the blog, whatever is done in the blog attracts 10-20 people a day the first couple of days. He pointed out that there are liabilities with ChatGPT. It led one man to be so anxious about the climate crisis that he killed himself. Good information is essential as well as hopeful information.

2) Survey questions – how to use, how to respond:

There was a discussion on the questions Aleks had thought about and written out. The question was how to make the best use of with them. It was agreed that Cheryl would cancel the SquareSpace site and we will seek a free WordPress site. Cheryl agreed to take on the task of blogging regularly just to get something going. Aleks pointed out how doing a survey requires expertise. Cheryl believes that the questions can serve as jumping off points for blog posts. There is information out there already on how post-secondary students feel about things. Now we need to figure out our response. We need to be able to reach that demographic. Right now R2:1 acts as an educational site and does it well. A blog site may well allow us to reach a younger demographic.



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3) VoR – best use, how:

Have renewed the domain name for VoR.ca. Can use that for the WordPress site. Cheryl offered to make contact with potential partners and try again but we may need to produce something first. Aleks pointed out how much time it takes to run R2:1. It was agreed that we would look again at applying to Coca Cola which may fund us. The problem is that we are a non-profit but do not have charitable status according to Elaine. That means many funders who want a charitable receipt will not fund us. Aleks suggested we revisit the proposal we have, continue to collect questions that can be sorted out for trial use. We can send out a request to all the contacts we have for such questions. Cheryl agreed to do that. Oruba suggested banks with environmental funds as potential funders.

It was agreed that we need to ask as many people as possible for responses. However, it was noted that institutions are failing students at all age levels. And in some ways, no one knows how to respond.

4) Other business:

Alek requested that we do all we can to keep our blog and newsletter alive. If we have ideas, we should send them to him. Oruba will do a paper on the mass timber conference she just attended. The group discussed the possibility of a podcast and what it would take to produce it on a monthly basis. It might be something to work toward as many people enjoy listening to podcasts.

Additional Thoughts (Cheryl, April 11, 2023):

1. Keep creating question based on our own reading and research
2. Use them as jumping off points for the new blog
3. Make sure when we post a new blog on VoR we also announce it or link from R2:1 to help develop an audience
4. When we have time and means, we develop a podcast.
5. Continue collecting responses, questions, concerns and comments to feed the material we post especially on VoR.
6. When possible develop partners and guest bloggers to expand audience
7. If we get funding and partners, we will be ready with questions for a survey



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Followup Message to Hadi (Aleks, April 11, 2023):

Hello Hadi,

On our last Board meeting (April, 3, 2023), we decided to try and create new web platform to attract younger population. You suggested it long time ago and Laura is strongly supporting that idea.

We already have voicesof.resilience2to1.com subdomain created on your server and I would like to upload there Wordpress and some themes [I am looking for something free now, we do not have any funding yet.]

I do have access to cpanel but it looks quite confusing to me, I need some assistance. What I am usually doing for Wordpress sites, I create a folder, in this case for example “voices”, Wordpress is residing there with themes etc. until it site is completed, and then just index.php and .htaccess files are referencing the Wordpress in the folder “voices”.

We will be very happy if you can assign someone to help us, thanks in advance,
Aleks